

Application Serial No: 09/821,584

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-6, 9-19 and 21-29 and add claims 30-38 as follows:

Claims 1-29 (canceled)

1 Claim 30. (new) A security system comprising:  
2 an activation token identifying system characteristics and  
3 specifying a threat level and at least one preset activation measure;  
4 a first system configured to at least review security and  
5 vulnerability information from information publishers and to provide  
6 the activation token based on the security and vulnerability  
7 information; and

8 a second system configured to determine whether the activation  
9 token is relevant by checking if actual characteristics at the second  
10 system correspond to the system characteristics identified by the  
11 activation token, the second system further configured to transform the  
12 activation token into at least one activation measure if the activation  
13 token is considered relevant by the second system, the activation  
14 measure configured to modify services executing at the second system.

1 Claim 31. (new) The system of claim 30, further comprising a  
2 cryptographic means configured to verify at the second system that the  
3 first system is a trusted service.

1 Claim 32. (new) The system of claim 30, further comprising a  
2 reporting means configured to report to a system administrator of the  
3 second system any activation measures taken by the second system.

1 Claim 33. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein the first system  
2 is further configured to filter the security and vulnerability  
3 information.

1 Claim 34. (new) The system of claim 30, further comprising a  
2 list of trusted service providers from whom activation tokens are  
3 accepted by the second system.

1 Claim 35. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein the at least one  
2 preset activation measure is shutting down a service affected by the  
3 specified threat level.

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1           Claim 36. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein the at least one  
2    preset activation measure is reconfiguring the functionality of a  
3    service affected by the specified threat level.

1           Claim 37. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein the at least one  
2    preset activation measure is installing a patch for a service affected  
3    by the specified threat level.

1           Claim 38. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein the at least one  
2    preset activation measure is alerting a system administrator.